

From: Arthur Young
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 9:41pm
Subject: Microsoft AntiTrust Trial Penalty

In light of the guilty verdict handed down to Microsoft regarding its anticompetitive and predatory practices, I believe that the proposed settlement does not serve the public interest.

If a company is convicted of illegally maintaining a monopoly, then a settlement should not allow that company to remain a monopoly. A company convicted of illegally maintaining a monopoly should not be allowed to continue the practices which brought about its conviction. A company convicted of breaking the law should not be trusted blindly to do the right thing.

A penalty should penalize the company for its behavior. That penalty should include steps to prevent such behavior from happening again and steps to reimburse those who were adversely affected.

If Microsoft had attained its monopoly as a result of putting out a good product that everyone liked, then they should be rewarded for their work. But Microsoft attained their monopoly through threats and coercion. They have been convicted of illegally maintaining a monopoly. Their penalty should reflect that. I do not believe that the settlement proposed by the U.S. Justice Department does that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Arthur Young

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